

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 12526

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLOS
SUBJECT: STRATEGY FOR INTERSESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS ON LAW
OF THE SEA

REF: STATE 298001

THE FOLLOWING ARE MY REPLIES TO QUESTIONS RAISED IN PARA 3,
REFTEL: FOREIGN MINISTER LIEVANO CONSIDERS LAW OF THE SEA
ISSUES EXTREMELY IMPORTANT AND THERFORE TAKES PERSONAL INTEREST
IN ALL DEVELOPMENTS. OTHER FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS WITH
IMPORTANT INPUT INTO POLICY DECISIONS, IN ORDER OF CLOUT, ARE
AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS GERMAN ZEA HERNANDEZ, FONOFF
UNDERSECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AFFAIRS JOAQUIN
FONSECA AND FONOFF CHIEF OF FRONTIERS DIVISION COLONEL JULIO
LONDONO. THERE HAVE BEEN NO RECENT CHANGES IN KEY LOS
DECISION-MAKERS. INPUTS INTO LOS POLICY FROM SUCH SOURCES AS
BUSINESS AND THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY ARE MARGINAL. THE NAVY
HAS EVINCEED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN LOS AND PROBABLY HAS SOME
INFLUENCE IN CERTAIN AREAS, SUCH AS MARITIME BOUDARIES
AND RIGHT OF PASSAGE. LIEVANO MAINTAINS CONTINUING CLOSE
CONTACT WITH LOS DELEGATION (BOGOTA 7926). FONSECA NORMALLY
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ATTENDS LOS SESSIONS. POLITICAL COUNSELOR, WHO IS MISSION'S
LOS OFFICER, IS IN VERY FREQUENT CONTACT WITH FONSECA ON
LOS AND OTHER MATTERS AND TO SOMEWHAT LESS EXTENT WITH
LONDONO AND HAS MADE LOS REPRESENTATIONS AT THAT LEVEL.
ZEA CAN BEST BE LOBBIED WITH BY OUR DELEGATION. LIEVANO,
HOWEVER, IS KEY. ALTHOUGH BOTH THE DCM AND I HAVE ACCESS

TO HIM, HE RESPONDS MORE TO PERSONAL, ONE-ON-ONE APPROACHES
BY SENIOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS, SUCH AS SECRETARY-HOSTED
LUNCHEONS AND MEETINGS. DEPENDING ON THE LEVEL OF OUR
INTEREST IN ENLISTING COLOMBIAN SUPPORT ON LOS MATTERS, I
WOULD STRONGLY URGE THAT THE SECRETARY EXTEND HUM INVITATION
TO MEET IN WASHINGTON OR NEW YORK PRIOR TO NEXT SESSION.
ONLY BILATERAL CONSIDERATION IS FAILURE OF US SENATE TO
RATIFY QUITA SUENO TREATY, ALTHOUGH COLOMBIAN CONCERN, AS
EXPRESSED TO MISSION, HAS NOT BEEN GREAT.
SANCHEZ

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